

A Home for Everyone (AHFE) Coordinating Board

Meeting Minutes – October 5, 2016

Facilitated by: Initiative Director and Co-chairs
 Prepared by: Rhea Graves; Reviewed by: Jurisdictional Staff Members

Members present: Raihana Ansary, Alexandra Appleton, Walter Robinson II (Jules Bailey rep), Rachel Carlson (Carolynn Bateson rep), Ed Blackburn, Stacy Borke, Sam Chase, Renè Duboise, Michael Parkhurst, Patricia Rojas, Michael Buonocore, Beth Burns, Liz Smith Currie (Chair Kafoury rep.), Shane Kinnison, Monique Menconi, Anne O’ Malley, Art Rios Sr., Tawna Sanchez, Nicole Stein, Chad Stover (Mayor Hales rep.), Becky Straus, Martha Strawn Morris, Sarah Westbrook Derald Walker, Joe Walsh (Councilor Echols rep.). **Staff:** Caitlin Campbell, Jennifer Chang, Ryan Deibert, Christian Elkin, Sally Erickson, Jane Marie Ford, Jessica Kinard, Tiffany Kingery, Mee Seon Kwon, Henry Burton, Ben Mauro, Erin Pidot, Anna Plumb, Bimal RajBhandary, Wendy Smith, Carrie Young, Rhea Graves
Guests: Jill Weir, Rachel Post, Chelse Bender, Gissel Gonzalez, Alexa Mason, Ken Weigel, Kiera Hansen, Mark Sturbois, Samantha Ridderbusch, John Elizalde, Troy Hammond, Michael Thurman, Robbie Noche, Amy Thompson.

Agenda Item	Discussion Points	Decision/Action
Welcome, Introductions & Minutes - Stacy Borke, Co-chair	Co-chair called the meeting to order, reviewed agenda, explained public comment process and commenced introductions. September 2016 meeting minutes were approved by consent; no objections.	
Public Comment - Stacy Borke, Co-chair	Floor opened for public comments. No public comments to be heard.	
Initiative Updates - Marc Jolin, Initiative Director	<p>Marc Jolin gave an update on the Executive Committee meeting held recently. The meeting included a presentation on system outcomes data and Harbor of Hope status update on the Terminal 1 site. Katy Miller, United States Interagency Council on Homelessness (USICH) also attended the September Executive Committee meeting to speak about the federal initiative focused on preventing and ending youth homelessness, and encourage our community to apply to participate in the Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program (YHDP). This is a great opportunity to bring in resources to the work we’re already doing around homeless youth. Our youth system met earlier this week to agree on a plan to submit a proposal on this opportunity. The Coordinating Board received 26 applications and the review process is taking longer than anticipated. The goal is to present the candidates to the Executive Committee in November.</p> <p>The Gresham Women’s Shelter is open and serving 55 women currently. The shelter can host 90 women with 10 emergency beds that can be referred by the domestic violence system and the Police Bureau. Work is underway to open two additional shelters in November. The Director’s Report links recent census data from the National Income and Poverty Report and findings from the Center for Budget and Policy Priorities on where housing subsidies are going. Twice the amount of federal assistance dollars are going to households making over \$100k than households making under \$20k. This is largely due to mortgage subsidies available for higher earning families and individuals. The federal programs significantly over-subsidize households earning over \$100k a year resulting in \$80 billion dollars a year in subsidies while households earning under \$20k a year receive about \$40 billion dollars yearly.</p>	

	<p>A Home for Everyone gave a safety off the streets presentation to the County Board of Commissioners and it is available on the AHFE website.</p> <p>Stacy Borke, Co-Chair, asked Shane Kinnison, First Baptist Church, to share updates about the work being done in Gresham. The City of Gresham spearheaded a task force of 18 people to recommend solutions for ending homelessness in Gresham. The recommendations have been finalized and the task force is presenting to City Council on October 18th. The recommendations are centered on the three main priorities identified from the task force: housing, resources and safety off the streets. These recommendations will go into planning materials for 2017 and will be reviewed this year for consideration by Gresham City Council.</p> <p>Marc asked Ed Blackburn, Central City Concern, to share the Housing Is Health Announcement. Ed shared that six of the major healthcare entities in the region announced a \$21.5 million capital contribution that will go towards the construction of about 380 units of housing. The sites include a location on North Interstate Avenue, East Stark Street, and a medical clinic providing recovery and addiction services on East Burnside. Negotiations for these projects were driven by healthcare providers after noticing that the lack of housing has contributed to recent failings in their clinic operations. Marc asked about the timeline and Ed mentioned that some units could become available in about 18 months, but the timeline is in developmental stages.</p> <p>A Board member asked about which project might be completed first. Ed estimates that the Interstate project would be completed first. He added that there is still a lot of work to do. An audience member asked when the waitlist would be available for sign up. Ed estimates that this will be available in Spring of 2018. Board member asked about the process of applying for these housing units. Ed commented that the projects will abide by Fair Housing requirements. The Interstate project is in a designated “right to return zone” so families that were gentrified out of the community will get priority on the waitlist at this site. Ed shared that the recently opened Miracles Central, an African-American based recovery site, was designed with an outreach plan supported by organizations that serve communities of color. Due to the success of these outreach efforts, 50% of the residents are people of color. Ed is confident that the outreach process will be effective in getting a diverse group of folks added to the lists for these new buildings. Ed thanked the organizations responsible for providing community benefit dollars: Care Oregon, Kaiser Permanente, Adventist Health, Legacy Health, and Providence Health.</p> <p>A Board member gave an update on the new Family Center that opened on East Glisan. Liz Smith-Currie shared that we’ll have opened another shelter in the Sellwood/Moreland area by our next Coordinating Board meeting as well. The building will house 120 women and couples with a focus on people over the age of 55, disabled adults, and veterans. This building should be opened by the first week of November and invitations will be sent out for the open house once it has been finalized.</p>	
<p>2015-2016 System Outcomes & Overview of</p>	<p>Ryan Deibert shared that AHFE is making significant steps in data collection and review in order to consistently provide accurate system outcomes and performance data. While the procedure is a work</p>	

<p>New Programs - Ryan Deibert, Joint Office of Homeless Services</p>	<p>in progress, the type of ideal data automation reporting we’re striving for is about six months away from completion.</p> <p>Ryan highlighted that we were able to expand total system funding by \$7 million with significant investments in permanent housing placement, prevention, shelter expansion, and other safety off the streets efforts. We exceeded goals in all of these focus areas and overall saw a 40% increase in people accessing shelter compared to the years prior. Much of the investments made around addressing racial disparities were made this year and we should see the true impact of these investments in outcome results for next year.</p> <p>Ryan reiterated that the system outcomes data being presented today is what we did in 2015-2016. Our goal was to reduce homelessness by half, placing 750 more people into housing than our baseline year. With the work of nonprofit providers and sustained efforts from City Council and the Board of County Commissioners the system moved 4,600 people from homelessness and into housing. Much of this was due to an infusion of \$2 million in rent assistance during the 4th quarter of last year.</p> <p>Generally, for people of color, we’ve seen increases nearly across the board in people served and housing placements. There was a small decrease in housing placements for Latino/Hispanic residents.</p> <p>Ryan explained that the data is affected by imperfect reporting around race/ethnicity. The “Other/Multiracial” category contributes to the loss of racial identity- especially the appearance of Latino/Hispanic individuals in our numbers. Moving towards more accurate reporting when it comes to race will help ensure we get accurate data surrounding race and homelessness in the future.</p> <p>Permanent placement retention rates for 2015-2016 indicate a high level of housing retention for those that we serve. The data is conservative because it requires a household be counted as a “yes” only if we’re able to get a hold of the client and they confirm that they are still in housing. Providers say that continued increases in rents and no cause evictions remain obstacles in housing retention and ultimately mean that we have to help clients for longer. A Board member brought up that we also have to help clients for longer periods of time and with more money. Ryan agreed, but does not have a graph on hand to display this information. A Board member asked a question regarding the retention data being able to discern among clients with certain disabilities and medical conditions adding “do these clients retain housing at different rates?” Ryan responded that we don’t have these reports yet, but having access to this type of trend data is a goal for the data refinement process we plan to design.</p> <p>Culturally specific providers like SEI and EI Programa report that shelter is not a relevant intervention in communities of color, making prevention an important tool for these populations. Linking prevention with anti-poverty programs provide a significant increase in the number and percentage of people of color receiving prevention assistance.</p> <p>A Board member asked a question “is the increase in prevention dollars resulting from additional funding allocated to culturally specific organizations?” Ryan estimates that results are due in part to the linking of anti-poverty and SUN programs leading to more families being represented in the data</p>	
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	<p>for people of color.</p> <p>Ryan highlighted that the data resulting from HUD’s definition of homelessness leaves many people of color invisible. Many people of color are in doubled up and tripled up situations which are not displayed in these counts. Ryan clarified that HUD homeless only refers to individuals on the street, in emergency shelter, or fleeing domestic violence situations.</p> <p>A Board member posed a question about the change in the cost of service per person each year. Marc added that we increased the projected cost of each placement by 15% in an attempt to account for the rising costs of placement, but the costs varies by provider as well.</p> <p>Ryan concluded that across the entirety of our system we served 23k people in the last year. A board member asked if we are “confident that there is no duplication in this number.” Ryan reported that information from domestic violence survivors and providers are kept in a separate, yet comparable database- not in HMIS. When we combine the totals we can’t be certain that there is no duplication in the totals.</p> <p>Board member asked the question “how do we tell this story to the public?” Ryan replied that as Board members and staff we can ensure that information about the work we’re doing gets out in our respective social and professional networks. He also mentioned a new collaboration with Hack Oregon, a data-centered nonprofit that will use our summary data to tell a more engaging homelessness narrative to the public. Marc shared that we rely on everyone to share the stories of those individuals that touch our system and how their lives have been impacted.</p> <p>Board member asked a question about how to capture data on those that weren’t served. Stacy shared that in January we’ll do our next street count and this yields better data about who is on the streets during any given night. A Board member also shared that this information is captured by the DV system during their intake process, but this data won’t paint an overall picture of those that aren’t currently being served in the system. Marc suggested adding a question about “have you accessed services this year?” during the next street count. Stacy shared that there was a resource event at the Clackamas Service Center that supported people in getting id and birth certificates so that folks could have access to services. 87% of those served during this event were Oregon residents. A Board member commented that a simple animation from Hack Oregon could share this story and also proposed a public source campaign to convince people that the bulk of our homeless are from Oregon.</p> <p>Board member posed the question “why is the street count done in January?” Marc commented that HUD requires it be done in January. He noted that the count takes a lot of staff support from providers and is a fairly expensive process.</p>	
<p>City of Portland Budget Overview -Jessica Kinard , City of Portland Budget Office</p>	<p>Jessica Kinard shared that the City of Portland budget totals \$4.3 billion. There is a small budget for discretionary funds available in the General Fund budget; it totals about \$530 million and \$34 million of this is one-time only funding. The majority of discretionary resources are dedicated to public safety which is a fairly common process. Jessica highlighted the 28 structured bureaus included in the City</p>	<p>Share additional questions with Jessica Kinard or Jane Marie Ford at the City Budget</p>

<p>-Jane Marie Ford, City of Portland Budget Office</p>	<p>budget and can provide additional information as needed.</p> <p>City Council has made some decisions that don't have resources identified for them, such as the intergovernmental agreement (IGA) creating the Joint Office of Homeless Services. The baseline funding amount for the office was \$15 million; currently there is \$11.5 million earmarked in ongoing dollars. This leaves a gap of \$3.5 million that City Council will have to account for next year in order to remain compliant with the IGA.</p> <p>Jessica reported that there are also several negotiations underway for labor unions and police union agreements that will have financial impacts, but funding sources have not yet been identified. Boom revenue years result in an increase in one-time only funding for the year, but ongoing funding is more difficult to increase. This reality prompts the Mayor's office to request proposals for reductions from bureaus in order to free up more ongoing funding possibilities.</p> <p>Budget guidance is released by the Mayor in November and December. Budget advisory committee (BAC) meetings are open to the public and provide recommendations on packages to consider for the following fiscal year. Bureau budgets are due to the Budget Office by February 1st in order for recommendations to be made to City Council. Following these recommendations, City Council holds budget work sessions in March and April and the Mayor releases the proposed budget shortly after this. The official City Budget is adopted in June. Jessica highlighted that the Joint Office's BAC recommendations are due by December 31st and this is provided to the Portland Housing Bureau (PHB) to be incorporated into their proposal. The PHB budget proposal is due by the end of January/early February.</p>	<p>Office.</p>
<p>FY 2016-2017/FY 2018 Budget Engagement Process - Ryan Deibert, Joint Office of Homeless Services</p>	<p>The Equity task force met about the racial equity lens and how it will be infused throughout the upcoming budget discussions. The group requested the presentation that Ryan gave today about how we are doing with respect to addressing racial disparities. He highlighted that the majority of homeless families are people of color while the majority of single adults are white/non-Hispanic.</p> <p>We're seeing a significant change in homelessness rates among people of color including an 85% increase for African-Americans. We've also seen an increase in women, people with disabilities, and seniors. The whole picture is "moving towards more vulnerability." Ryan referenced the information in today's packet entailing guidance received by culturally specific providers around addressing current racial disparities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase flexible funds targeted through culturally-specific providers • Use broader definitions of homelessness, including doubled-up • Focus on flexible placement and eviction prevention resources • Lower case loads to allow trauma-informed personal advocacy • Expand access to units, especially for high-barrier clients • Acknowledge and plan for racial discrimination in housing and services • Create new affordable housing that meets needs of communities of color • Support organizational capacity of culturally-specific providers 	<p>Contact Ryan Deibert for additional information on the presentation</p>

	<p>The Joint Office is currently working to assess any amount of unallocated funding as well as issuing payments on the approved contracts we have currently.</p> <p>A Board member commented that it might be a good idea to have some money left unallocated for the year. He added “this could be used for additional rent subsidy dollars especially if the housing ballot measure goes through.”</p>	
<p>Next Meeting - Marc Jolin, Initiative Director</p>	<p>Marc shared that the upcoming workgroups will host equity exercises to ensure we have a shared understanding on implementing the Equity Lens. The system capacity expansion we’re discussing requires more than just a one year investment. A goal for the workgroups is to devise recommendations around sustaining capacity and addressing the unmet needs we’ve identified. Marc shared that we plan to have presentations on these recommendations at the November Coordinating Board meeting. Final recommendations will be released in December.</p> <p>The next meeting will be 3:00 – 5:00 PM on Wednesday, December 7, 2016 Meeting adjourned.</p>	